

1 What is claimed is:

- 2 1. An apparatus for revitalizing a windshield wiper blade, comprising:  
3 an edge-former that is configured to form a new edge on the windshield wiper  
4 blade;  
5 a guide configured to maintain substantial alignment of the windshield wiper  
6 blade relative to the edge-former.  
7
- 8 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a trimmer.  
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- 10 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a cutting device.  
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- 12 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a grinding device that is  
13 configured to form the new edge.  
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- 15 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a laser device that is  
16 configured to form the new edge.  
17
- 18 6. The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein the edge-former is a fluid jet assembly  
19 that is configured to form the new edge.  
20
- 21 7. The apparatus of claim 6, and wherein the fluid jet is a water jet.  
22
- 23 8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a shearing device that is  
24 configured to form the new edge.  
25
- 26 9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the edge-former is a molder.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising a frame on which both the  
2 edge-former and the guide are supported.

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4 11. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising a feeder configured to move the  
5 windshield wiper blade relative to the edge-former.

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7 12. The apparatus of claim 11, and further comprising a frame on which the feeder is  
8 supported, wherein the feeder is configured to support the edge-former and to move the  
9 edge-former relative to the frame.

10  
11 13. The apparatus of claim 12, and wherein the guide is supported on the frame.

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13 14. The apparatus of claim 11, and further comprising a frame on which the feeder,  
14 the edge-former, and the guide are supported, wherein the feeder is configured to move  
15 the windshield wiper blade relative to the frame.

16  
17 15. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an applicator configured to  
18 apply a protective material to the windshield wiper blade.

19  
20 16. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is configured to be portable.

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22 17. The apparatus of claim 16, and wherein the apparatus is further configured to  
23 draw operational power from a portable battery.

24  
25 18. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is configured to be hand-held.

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1 19. A windshield wiper apparatus, comprising:  
2 a windshield wiper assembly that includes a wiper blade; and  
3 a heating element which is supported on the windshield wiper assembly and  
4 which is configured to heat the wiper blade.

5  
6 20. The windshield wiper apparatus of claim 19, and wherein the heating element is  
7 embedded within the wiper blade.

8  
9 21. The apparatus of claim 19, and further comprising a blade rail on which the wiper  
10 blade is supported, wherein the heating element is supported on the blade rail.

11  
12 22. The apparatus of claim 19, and further comprising a wiper arm on which the  
13 wiper blade is supported, wherein the heating element is supported on the wiper arm.

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15 23. The apparatus of claim 19, and further comprising a controller connected to the  
16 heating element and configured to control the temperature of the heating element.

17  
18 24. A method of revitalizing a wiper blade, comprising forming a new edge on the  
19 wiper blade by trimming a worn edge there from.

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21 25. The method of claim 24, and wherein the wiper blade is trimmed at an oblique  
22 angle.

23  
24 26. The method of claim 24, and further comprising applying a protective material to  
25 the wiper blade.

1 27. A method of revitalizing a windshield wiper blade, comprising forming a new edge  
2 on the wiper blade by molding the new edge.

3

4 28. The method of claim 27, and further comprising softening at least a portion of the  
5 wiper blade to a plastic state.

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7 29. The method of claim 28, and wherein the wiper blade is softened by heating the  
8 wiper blade.

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